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a subsidy to an operation that cannot make it on its own. The public did not say they want ethanol. If it's not being sold in the rural areas at the same rate it is in the urban areas, the urban areas already are supporting it and subsidizing it more than Senator Cunningham's area. They're looking at the urban people and saying, they're fools. Let's put up a pitiful mouth, look sorrowful, and say, give us some money. So people like Senator Bourne, trying to overcome that label that Senator "Silver Fox" hung on him of "slick lawyer," is pretending to have so much concern for the rural areas. Well, here's what I say about what Senator Bourne suggested, Senator Cunningham, and others. Listen to Senator Loudon, listen to Senator Raikes, and (laugh) listen, as difficult as it might be, to me. No more gas tax. The taxes on gas are higher now than they have ever been in this state. They are continuing to rise. And with a President who's interested in padding the pockets of the oil industry, with a governor in Alaska who wants to exploit that pristine land, and he can't, so he said he's going to go out into the water, the three-mile limit off the coast, and tell people, you can dig as many holes as you want to there to try to find as much oil as you can. There are certain interests which are gouging the public. The ethanol purveyors, speculators, and investors, are no better. They are using a different product. It is not as good for the environment as they say. There are by-products from ethanol that are harmful to the ecology. That plant under criminal investigation had released certain substances untreated into a stream. Well if ethanol is so pure, how can there be such a foul way utilized to produce it? Why is it that to build ethanol plants and operate them, so much fossil fuel has to be used? Wouldn't it make sense, brothers and sisters, if ethanol is such a good fuel alternative, that wherever fuel is needed in the production of ethanol, they use ethanol as the fuel? Why don't they do that? They don't do it. Ethanol is a boondoggle. Ethanol is a hustle. And if there were not so much corn grown in this state, we wouldn't have people saying what they say. But since there is a lot of corn grown, and this whole boondoggle is supposed to be a boost to that part of the economy, let them pay for their lollipops.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.